

Washington, DC -- Congressman Vern Buchanan will hold a listening session on health care reform next week at the University of South Florida Sarasota Manatee. The forum, called "Prospects for Health Care Reform," will be held at the Institute for Public Policy and Leadership at USF's Selby Auditorium, 8350 N. Tamiami Trail.

"The Congress is expected to vote this summer on sweeping health care legislation," said Buchanan. "I look forward to hearing the views from doctors, seniors and others on how best to make health care more affordable and accessible for all Americans."

The Institute for Public Policy and Leadership Director David Klement will moderate a discussion on legislative proposals to improve health care in America. Sarasota Medical Society immediate past President Dr. Michael Patete, Manatee Memorial Hospital CEO Moody Chisholm, Sarasota Memorial Hospital CFO David Verinder, Manatee Chamber of Commerce President Bob Bartz, and AARP Advocacy Director Jeff Johnson will participate in the program. The Service Employees International Union (SEIU) has also been invited to participate.

The event will be held on Monday, June 15, 2009 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The public is invited to attend.

RSVP to christian.ziegler@mail.house.gov or call the Congressman's office at 941-951-6643. There is no fee for the event but space is limited.

###